



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Idaho 2011 Potato Crop Revised Up; Idaho 2012 Sugarbeet Production Up 6 Percent

Final disposition numbers show Idaho's 2011 potato crop totaling 129 million cwt, an increase of 1.3 percent from earlier estimates. Field run yield of 404 cwt is 6 cwt more than the previous estimate and 20 cwt more than the 2010 crop's yield. Harvested area for the 2011 crop was 319,000 acres, unchanged from the previous estimate. For the 2012 potato crop, preliminary data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey shows that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 52.4 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Russet Norkotah accounts for 20.9 percent of plantings, and Ranger Russets are 12.3 percent of the total. Alturas, at 2.1 percent, and Umatilla Russet, at 1.8 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2012 crop.

Nationally, production of 2011 fall potatoes is finalized at 391 million cwt, 7 percent above the 2010 crop but 1 percent below 2009. Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2011 totalled 430 million cwt, up 6 percent from 2010 but 1 percent below 2009.

Idaho's 2012 sugarbeet production is forecast to be 6.44 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast and up 6 percent from a year ago. Yield of 35.4 tons per acre is up from 2011's 34.4 tons per acre and, if realized, a new record yield for Idaho. Harvested acreage is expected to total 182,000 acres, up 6,000 acres from 2011.

United States' sugarbeet production for 2012 is forecast at 35.6 million tons, up 23 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 1.22 million acres, up slightly from 2011. The yield is forecast at 29.3 tons per acre, up 5.5 tons from 2011 and a new record if realized.

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